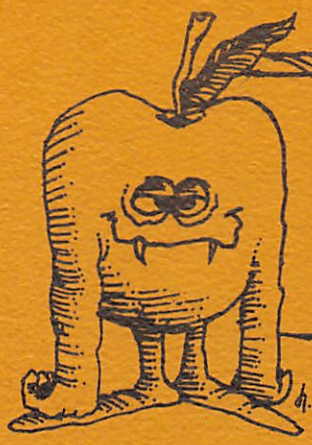


# NORTHERN ILLINOIS APPLE USERS GROUP

VOL. 3-NO. 3

# THE HARVEST

NOVEMBER 1981

## NOTICE OF MEETING DATES

NOVEMBER- - - - - - - - - - -NOVEMBER 14
DECEMBER- - - - - - - - - - -DECEMBER 12
JANUARY- - - - - - - - - - - --JANUARY 9

IN THIS ISSUE

# THE HARVEST

## CLUB OFFICERS

President-
Dave Alpert———— 312-295-6078
Vice Pres-
Guy Lyle———— 312-438-7941
Treasurer-
Jim Wilson———— 312-358-2196
Secretary-
Joel Kurasch———— 312-677-8358
Librarian-
Jim Pfeiffer———— 312-289-7311
SIG Co-Ordinator-
Eric Stral———— 312-885-1941
Software Chairman-
Rob Stewart———— 312-537-0544
Hardware Chairman-
Paul Stadfeld———— 312-359-2378
Program Chairman-
Guy Lyle———— 312-438-7941
Steering Committee-
Ted & Mary Rosemann—— 312-338-4833

Club Adresses:

MEMBERSHIP, etc.————BOX 787,
Palatine, Il, 60067

NEWSLETTER————Terry Tufts,
1015 S.Ridge Ave,
Arlington Heights, Il,
60005.
312-392-7735

BULLETIN BOARD————312-295-6926 daily as
available and after
10:30pm local time.

Membership is open to all. Dues are $12.00 annually with a one time initiation fee of $5.00 at the time of admission. An additional fee will be charged to cover the cost of mailing to foreign members. Membership applications are available from the club Secretary at the meetings or by mail.



## MEMBERS AIDE

The members listed below have volunteered to answer questions from club members who need a 'HOT LINE' type answer that can be answered over the telephone. Please try to be brief when you call as a courtesy to them. Their names and phone numbers are listed below. The numbers after their names represent their special talents. PLEASE-NO CALLS at dinner time or after 10 pm.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paul Stadfeld———— | 312-359-2378 | 4-9 |
| Guy Lyle———— | 312-438-7941 | 4-9 |
| Earl Allen———— | 312-837-9259 | 1-9 |
| Ted Rosemann | | |
| Mary Rosemann———— | 312-338-4833 | 2,3 |
| Joel Kurasch———— | 312-677-8358 | 9,0 |
| Leon Alexander———— | 312-725-5309 | 8,9 |
| Bob Noll———— | 312-888-0808 | 1,9 |
| Ken Nestle———— | 312-620-7745 | 2,3 |
| Herb Schulz———— | 312-968-6927 | 0, |
| Rich Lundeen———— | 312-420-2008 | 2,3 |
| Mike Robins———— | 312-593-2709 | 9,0 |

Mach. Lang=1 Int. BASIC=2
Applesoft =3 Hardware =4
Arrays =5 DOS =6

All of above=9
PASCAL=0 ,Z80 CARD=8(are not included in the 9 designation)

When numbers appear before a 9, the person is especially qualified in that area as well as in all other areas.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

OCTOBER TREASURERS REPORT

| | |
|---|---|
| Sept. Ending Bal. | $2404.75 |
| Membership | |
| 26 new members | 271.00 |
| 233 Disks sold | 816.50> |
| Newsletter | <299.84> |
| Operations and misc. income | <98.44> |
| October Ending Balance | $3102.97 |

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Wilson, Treasurer,
Oct 3,1981

# PREZ SEZ!

## Of Mountains and Molehills

Recently a software company called Ashton-Tate ran a series of ads stating that much of the software for sale had something in common with the way a bilge pump worked. They went so far as to say what exactly a bilge pumps does. I think I saw some letters to the editors that knocked the tone of the ad. I could not agree more with those who found the ad offensive. It certainly wouldn't make me buy one of their products. Those ads have since been withdrawn.

Now, it seems, the NIAUG has something in common with Ashton-Tate. There is a program in our club library that has a line of code that uses the same word. It is an educational program that asks questions. When the answer is wrong, it replys as such, but also responds that the answer acts like a bilge pump. Since the program is educational in nature, it would be used mostly by children. In fact, it was discovered by an incident involving a child.

One of our members, while entertaining a child in his home, noticed this message in response to a wrong answer the child had entered. Our members' response has been to 1) write a letter to the Educational SIG chairperson and 2) show this line of code to a local computer store. That store sent me the printout given to them. The letter to the Ed SIG seriously condemned the club and also talked about what would be next in the club library, X rated disks, etc??!!

Unfortunately, the letter arrived too late for us to have the librarian expunge the line from the disks that were sold Saturday at the meeting. At no time before the last meeting did this member inform me or the club librarian of the problem. Had we been so informed, it would have been immediately removed from the disk. While a computer store was so informed and a letter mailed to a relatively unrelated committee person, those who IMMEDIATELY could do something about the problem were not informed.

I called this member after the meeting to find out why I or the librarian were not informed immediately so that we could prevent any more appearances of the offensive disk. I was told that my address was not listed in the newsletter. But my phone is, I said. Well, I wanted to officially inform you in writing, he said. It seems he is very upset at the club, our librarian (who he says is at fault) and me. I tried to explain that these programs come from trading with other user groups and member donations. I also explained that there are around 65 disks in the library and over 1200 programs. Lines of code must exceed 50,000. If the volunteer librarian, who makes over 300 disks a month for the club to sell, who organizes a catalogue of each disk and its function and checks newly arrived disks for operating flaws, was required to read every line of code (and translate machine code into ASCII) we would not have a volunteer librarian.

It is irresponsible to allow the program in question to remain in the library unaltered. It has been altered now. Too bad I didn't get a phone call before the meeting.

Dave Alpert

## Valentines Day Massacre Party

Earlier this year, we held a party that was highly successful. A committee is being formed to plan this event. HOWEVER, so far, we have no volunteers. The committee will hold its first meeting when there are some people ready to meet. If not.....not.

Calls accepted at my home before 10pm.

Dave Alpert

## EXPEDITER REVIEW

by Rob Stewart
Evaluation program loaned to NIAUG SEC by
DATA DOMAIN, Schaumburg, IL
COST of program $100.00

EXPEDITER II - AN APPLESOFT COMPILER
distributed by ON-LINE Systems

Is this really the answer to slow APPLESOFT programs? Can I just 'compile' all of my favorite programs and make them run that much faster? Is this the next best thing since man invented sliced bread?

OR

Is this another time to 'beware of Greeks bearing gifts'? Is there some hidden 'GOTCHA' that I'll only find after I've spent my $100.00? Will I get $100.00 worth of use out of this program?

TO BUY OR NOT TO BUY, THAT IS THE QUESTION.

(sorry about that)

APPLESOFT is an interpreted language. This means that EACH line of the program must be converted into steps that the computer can perform, EACH time the line is encountered. It would seem to most people that by doing all the conversions at once, instead of when the program is running, would save a considerable amount of time. This is indeed the case. Hence compilers.

APPLESOFT has been around for a number of years, and you might ask: "If compilers are such an obvious improvement, why has it taken so long for them to get to the market?" Well, there must be several reasons. First, compilers are rather complex programs to write. Second, APPLESOFT does several things that compilers were never supposed to be able to do. Third, in order to save memory space in the APPLE, ways had to be developed to make extensive use of program subroutines already resident in the APPLESOFT interpreter (comment later). For these reasons, and probably many more, the development of APPLESOFT compilers has been a long, and for the comsumer, painfully slow process.

Obviously, the compiler works. Any program this expensive would literally be laughed from the marketplace if it did not. What I am not saying is that it works the same, or as easily as APPLESOFT. In order to get a working compiler, several features, and some of the quirks of APPLESOFT have been totally eliminated. The things eliminated are:

1) DEL (deleting lines is not allowed)
2) HIMEM (not applicable to a compiled program)
3) LOMEM (memory can be reserved when compiled)
4) RESUME (can't be done)
5) RECALL (who uses tape anymore? - use BLOAD)
6) STORE (same as RECALL - use BSAVE)
7) CONT (just not supported)
8) LIST (no lines to list anymore)

A method of accomplishing each of these unsupported commands is given or a reason why it no longer applies is stated. So, I guess we really don't need them anyway. (We won't get them, so why cry over spilt commands.)

Usage restrictions apply to:

1) DIM (can't DIM with a variable & arays in multiple dimensions must be DIMed)
2) FOR/NEXT (must specifically state the FOR variable with the NEXT)

Well, that isn't to much to lose for the "compiled program runs up to 20 times faster". Ah-ha! Along with this increase in speed, your program's size will mushroom. From personal experience, my programs longer than about 65-70 sectors run out of room. If this happens, you are directed to break your program up into smaller pieces and, by using GLOBAL VARIABLES, call separately compiled program sections to accomplish your task. Declaring variables to be GLOBAL is a way of reserving set areas of memory for inter-program communication of the declared variables. This is very similar to the APPLESOFT CHAIN command.

The programs that I would like to compile, to increase their speed, are all too large to compile in one piece. There

now seems to be a great amount of work necessary to convert any existing programs over to their compiled versions. This is because for large programs you must:

1) divide the main program into smaller sections
2) establish all variables before you use them
3) DIM only with numbers, not variables
4) relocate all DIMs to the front of each program section
5) add the variable to all NEXT statements
6) determine which variables will be shared by sections
7) each section must DIM its GLOBAL Variables in the same order
8) to save space, you can define string lengths for each string
(a default length of 40 can be changed at compile time)
9) replace or delete any of the unsupported APPLESOFT commands

Do you hear the hinges creaking on Pandora's Box?

It is very possible to convert programs so they can then be compiled, it just may not be easy or 'a snap'. It probalbly is easier to convert a program than it is than to write it new for the compiler.

---

Now, some tips on how to write a new program to be compiled. What should you do differently. There is no longer a need to put high-usage subroutines at the front of your program. This is done in APPLESOFT to decrease the time required to find the referenced line numbers in GOTO or GOSUB statements.

Multiple commands per line are also not necessary. This is done to conserve the memory taken up by each line number(2 or 3 bytes per line #, I think). This may not seem like much, but a program with line numbers from 10 to 10000, in increments of 10, will take 2K to 3K to just store the line numbers.

As for tips on writing a new program from scratch.....

Know exactly what variables you need for all of your program. Determine which of these variables will be LOCAL to a particular program or GLOBAL to all separately compiled program sections. Define ALL variables you will be using, GLOBAL variables first, then LOCAL variables.

With regard to string variables, determine the absolute MAXIMUM length of each string variable. Then define each string and string length in either the GLOBAL or LOCAL definition area of the program (as the case may be for each variable).

Make a GOSUB routine of everything. I am not kidding! Have only 1 'PRINT' statement, only 1 'HOME', 'HTAB', 'VTAB', 'PEEK', 'POKE', 'FOR/NEXT', 'IN#', 'PR#', 'PRINT SPC', 'NORMAL', 'INVERSE', 'INPUT', 'GET', and any other command out of which you can make a universal subroutine.

Use a REMark statement with everything! Especially with the universal subroutines. Give plenty of information about what you are doing, in particular what are the variables that the subroutine uses, which variables return without being changed, and which will be altered by doing a GOSUB to the routine. REMark statements will also be equally necessary in the main program. You may have 15 GOSUBs in a row, and not have any idea what is going on!

Boy, that's a lot of work. Well, yes, it is. Perhaps you have just had your first encounter with STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING, for this is what is needed to make the most productive use of the compiler. Don't get me wrong, you don't have to do any of the things I mentioned, except DIM all variables before you use them. But, if you are not going to do at least some of them, then you should perhaps re-evaluate your need to purchase a compiler. You may find you don't really need one after all.

With these tricks (and perhaps others that I haven't discovered) you might be able to compile a program which is longer than 100 or even 150 sectors.

If you plan to be using a lot of HI-RES then many of these tricks will almost become mandatory, so be warned!

Well, is a compiler worth the $100.00 price? I can't make that decision for you. As for myself, I have a need for a compiler, and I am willing to operate to some extent under the restrictions necessary for efficient compiler usage. I just think I'll wait and see the other compilers. In particular, the compiler from Microsoft. Afterall, Microsoft wrote APPLESOFT for APPLE!

I do hope that someone writes a compiler which does not use the resident ROM routines. I can get an extra 16K of program memory space from a language card, which would normally not be fully utilized.

I wish to express my grateful appreciation to DATA DOMAIN for loaning this copy of EXPEDITER II to the NIAUG Software Evaluation Committee. Due to the nature of the product, several weeks were devoted to developing this review.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

## AGENDA FILES
A Software Review
by
Ann Baldridge

Most people feel -- we're brought up that way -- that in order to get ahead we must WORK HARD. Sheer physical labor or just long hours at a desk or computer terminal rarely pay off very well. The best way, then, is to WORK SMART. In order to do that, though, "First, I gotta get organized!" Which is neither easy or fun. Here's one answer that we've found very useful.

It's a brand new Special Delivery Software program from the Apple Computer Company. Written in Applesoft (and a couple of other languages), Agenda Files requires 48K bytes RAM, or 48K RAM and an Applesoft Firmware Card, or the Apple Language System -- any or all in an Apple II. It also needs a Monitor, at least one Disk II drive with 3.3 DOS and a printer (actually, it'll work without one but you'll likely want to have a way to get hard copy once in a while).

The Agenda Files is a memo system to use as a personal calendar and/or a small business agenda. The program has six files:

1. The File for Today
2. The File for Tomorrow
3. The File for the Day after Tomorrow
4. The File for the Future
5. The First List
6. The Second List

From a user-oriented menu, you may enter items into any of the files, delete items and/or files, change position of any items within a file, transfer items from one file to another, print any item in a file or the entire contents, search files for items with your specified code or keyword, even get advance notices if you want them.

It all works as advertised -- with few problems. I'm going to mention the negative aspects of the program first. Although they're not major ones they do affect my comments about the positive features. First, there's no option for putting files -- current ones or past ones -- onto another disk (or disk drive). All the information must be kept on one of the two disks provided with Agenda Files (Apple does provide a Master and a Backup and will replace a defective disk free in the first ninety days and for an outrageous $15.00 after that). Second, there's no CHANGE option. In order to do that, you have to DELETE an item, then re-ENTER it, which is a pain sometimes. And, last, but far from least, you have to turn off the computer to get out of the program. RESET doesn't even work. There should be some sort of a QUIT option even if the user must insert another Initialized disk into the drive.

Now to the positive things. It's easy to enter the information -- with very little practice you can set up your life until the end of the century. As usual, the Apple user-manual is above average in readability and layout. You should, incidentally, read it all the way through the first time or two before you use the Agenda Files -- but that's all you'll need to do. The menus that appear as you go through each time make

understanding and remembering easy. The program automatically dates everything and arranges your Future File by date -- no matter when you enter an item or group of items. Then, that Future File reads into the appropriate file as you change the date each morning when you boot the thing up.

A really neat feature of this program lets you define the last two files (known as The First List and The Second List). For example, you might want to name one of them Christmas or Holiday Gift List and enter a bunch of notes on who wants what. When you get ready to shop, you can either transfer that list to the appropriate date(s) and print it out, or just print out the Gift List as-is. Later, you can delete the entire list and rename the file something else.

The Transfer Option, in fact, is a good way to convert any list into "action". Let's say you've decided to start a business and are making a lot of notes about your Business Plan -- in a file you've named that way. When the time's right, you can gradually -- or all at once -- transfer any or all of these items into target dates according to your Plan of Action. Naturally, you'll be able to code each item to the person responsible for that job or report or result. Incidentally, the Transfer option moves the item from one file to the selected one permanently. If you want something in two places, you'll have to enter it twice.

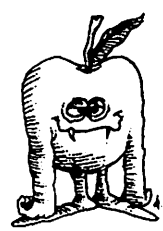
The Search option works quickly. You may search any one of the six files individually and/or search files 1 through 4 all-at-once for something you specify. If, for instance, more than one person will be using the Agenda Files, coding the beginning of each entry with his/her initials (or something secret with a hidden control character) is useful. Then, each person searches for whatever is on his/her "To Do List" by entering the intials or secret code.

Some people may wish to make one of the user-defined files into a phone-number and/or address list of people frequently called or mentioned in one of their daily items. It's handy to have this information in a computer program if you don't already. The point is, you get to decide how you can make this space most productive for yourself and/or your business.

Each morning, when you boot and choose the Full Entry Mode, you're shown anything left over from the day before (or from the last time you ran the Agenda Files). You may choose to print an item out or transfer it to the current day's list. It will disappear forever if you select anything else (since there's no provision for saving "diary-type" items to another disk with some sort of a Review program). One way to get around the "problem": build one of your optional lists into that diary. Then, you can transfer the selected items there. In order to attach the appropriate date to the item, you'll have to DELETE and re-ENTER the item -- since there's no CHANGE option. A bit cumbersome, but maybe better than looking through massive piles of paper when trying to check out "Just when was it that we had lunch with the guy from SCM?" with the I.R.S. breathing over your shoulder.

You can FID any of the six text files onto another disk -- they can be examined under normal Apple DOS with a simple "Read" program. These are not all the features you'll find in the Agenda Files, but I've tried to hit the highlights to help you reach a decision.

Now, the really good news. You can get all this for only $35.00. That's a bargain for anything this powerful and sophisticated to help you (and your family or your business!?!) get organized. The only comparable one I've found costs around $150.00. Try the Agenda Files. You'll like it. Let's all get our acts together and start working smarter, instead of harder -- and start getting richer.



## NIAUG LIBRARY NOTES

by

George Makas

Jim Pfeiffer gave me an excellent suggestion; he reminded me that at the rate I was reviewing disks it would take me years to review our library. He is so right! Rather than continue to review the old disks, I am turning to Vol. 31 of the NIAUG library.

The first thing I did was to run a printed list of the catalog. At the beginning were apparently two all-purpose disassembler programs for 6502 by Larry Freeman. I promptly BLOADed a binary file and then BRUN the program to my printer and sure enough, all those hexs started to appear with appropriate mnemonics. Of course, one must use either Pump's patches or the system commands in the monitor, AA72 AA73 and AA60 AA61, to locate the starting and ending addresses in hex, in order to satisfy the request for this information when running the program. The difference in the two saved programs is the location of the ALL PURPOSE DISASMB. programs, one at 800 and the other at 8B00, just in case the program you are interested in is BLOADed at either of the two addresses.

There are a number of T file converters on the diskette. If you are not the proud owner of a multi-language system and multi-text processing programs, then you need APPLEWRITER TO TEXT, STANDARD TO MODIFIED APPLEWRIT, TEXT FILE OUT/CPY or TEXT FILE OUT/CPY (FP), and/or TEXT TO APPLEWRITER to have access to such programs that are available to you. Other programs such as MODIFIED TO STANDARD APPLEWRIT and its related files are applicable only if you own APPLE DOS TOOLKIT and an EPSON PRINTER.

Another utility is CMP D1 & D2, a program I did not test but one that should prove valuable in that you need not run each program after copying a diskette to see that all has been copied well. MEM/DUMP TO TEXT is another conversion type file that may have application for those circumstances not covered by the conversion programs. I tested THROTTLE on both Applesoft and Integer programs: the only fault I found is that it is too slow. This program could be improved by permitting the user to set a variable speed or permit a temporary stop with the option to continue at will. One could list and read the program in twenty line segments a lot faster than it takes to print half of the lines.

There are four programs devoted to setting up a memorandum system. It is not clear whether this is for one's personal use or whether it is intended for second party communication. Another set of programs called GEOMETRY.MENU with a related set of some eleven geometry designs is offered for one's amazement. In some of the programs the user can input data on a variable basis to observe the effect that values have on the design.

The set of programs that could be of great value is PUMP'S DOS 3.3 PATCHES. I ran these programs and was delighted that I could stop the scrolling of my catalog by pressing the escape key; however, I was unable to accomplish a number of the other features, since there was no indication of what inputs or procedures were to be followed to determine disk space and the other features. An interesting subroutine that one can add to his programs is PRINT USING, a routine that can justify your data around the decimal point in a series of numbers. It will print the number of places the user selects, regardless of the number of places in the original data.

The most entertaining program on the disk is CATTLECAR GALLACTICA 3.0. If you really want to have a chuckle or two, I suggest you run this program and then take out your Applesoft, Integer & Dos manuals and then type in all of your commands. You should shift languages as needed. Even if you do not solve the problems, at least you will enjoy some of the retorts programed into the responses to the commands you type.

SOME THOUGHTS ON NEXT YEAR'S OFFICERS

The response that Joel is getting for a slate is disappointing! NIAUG is operated by volunteers and if not enough volunteers show up, then what becomes of the organization? It "volunteerly" disappears!!!

Everyone likes to be an "Indian" at times when there is no work associated with the position. Folks, NIAUG has enough "Indians" and it's time a few "Chiefs" came forth and exercised their talent.

Also, along this line... I have heard some words of dissatisfaction from a few of the monthly meeting attendees... If you don't like something, go to the officers meetings and make yourself heard! The club officers can't please all the people all the time, but you have to give them credit for at least making the effort to keep NIAUG on an even keel through thick and thin. With 500 members out there, there are 500 opinions and ways of doing things and somewhere, someone has the talent the club needs to make it viable. Come on out of the closet and lets get on with keeping NIAUG one of the best APPLE USERS GROUPS in the ol' U S of A....

This is the November issue of "THE HARVEST" and time is of the essence. Nominations are due in December, elections in January and installation in February for the 1982 year.

Now that I have rung your bell, why don't you pick up the phone and call Joel Kurasch (the number can be found in the front of this issue!) and be kind enough to let him know what contribution and/or service you would like to render for the next year. Remember, the more you put into NIAUG, the more you'll get out!!!

Down from the soap box for a minute. I don't personally know all 500 of the membership, but from my experience as Prez last year, I know some of you are "sandbagging" (old Navy term for "goldbricking"). The club is three (3) years old and it's past time you got involved. YOU'RE GETTING A LOT OUT OF THE CLUB... OFFER TO PUT SOME EFFORT IN!

DON FULLER (Old prezs never die, they just byte the APPLE)

* * * * * *

VISITREND + VISIPLOT

Program by
MITCHELL KAPOR
180 Franklin Street
Cambridge, MA 02139
(617) 492-7171

Distributed by
PERSONAL SOFTWARE, INC
1330 Bordeaux Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
(408) 745-7841

Reviewed by:
Harry Maram
(312) 764-1847

Introduction:
The VisiTrend/VisiPlot program turns the Apple II computer into a combined time series analysis and graph plotting system that communicates with the VisiCalc program and all other Personal Software programs that support DIF (Data Interchange Format) files. The software contains three programs that can be freely switched keeping your time data series in memory for use by each program. One program handles storage management and data editing, one performs statistical analysis, data editing, and computer memory management, and the last plots charts of the data, managed and generated by the other programs.

Documentation & Tutorial:
The manual describes the use of the VisiTrend/VisiPlot programs and is divided into three parts:

Part One...describes the programs and what they do. It provides the basic information for loading the disk and using the keyboard and the cursor for editing functions.

Part Two...describes the major functions of the programs and provides a series of five lessons that lead you step by step through their use.

Part Three...describes how to execute those functions not covered in the lessons and includes a complete reference guide.

Tutorial:
Lesson One is about drawing charts on the screen. Lesson Two covers the Storage Management program. Lesson Three covers the Edit functions. Lesson Four describes how to use the statistical analysis functions in the VisiTrend program. Lesson Five covers additional plotting and the creation of more complex charts.

VisiPlot Program Description:
The VisiPlot program has a full graphics package that displays scatter, pie, line, area, bar and hi-lo charts. These aid in the evaluation and communication of the statistical results to allow you to see the relationships between the time series analyses.

VisiTrend Program Description:
The VisiTrend portion of the program develops ancillary data series used in analysis and forecasting techniques. The available methods include moving averages, smoothed data, percent of change, leading and lagging indicators and cumulative total functions. It also performs linear multiple regressions and displays standard errors of the coefficients, T, F, R-Bar squared and the Durbin-Watson statistic. Tables of statistical measures such as minimum, maximum, mean, variance, standard deviation, correlation coefficient and performance trendline forecasting can be generated.

Why Regress?
Multiple Linear Regression (least squares method) is a method of developing a formula that relates a single variable (called the dependent variable) to one to five other variables (called independent variables). The resulting equation should explain the dependent variable in terms of the independent variables and is a powerful tool for developing models for understanding past trends and for forecasting future trends.(see Econometric Methods,McGraw Hill, 1972; An Introduction to Econometrics, Prentice Hall, 1962; Principles of Econometrics, Wiley, 1971).

Limitations:
Memory holds 16 series with maximum of 150 data points each.
Plot can include a maximum of six series or 645 data points.
Transform formulas cannot exceed 80 characters.

A maximum of five series can be used as independent variables in a linear regression.
Handles only time series and supports only some printers.

Conclusion and Remarks:
The VisiTrend/VisiPlot program is easy to use. There are no special terms or syntax to be memorized. The programs are memu driven which means that the user chooses from options available that are displayed as a menu. The program is very complex with many functions and options. Therefore the menus and their details are about the easiest way to explain how to operate the program and what happens when each different menu comes into play. It is very satisfying to perform complex statistical analysis on data and see the output capabilities first and then see the computer display the complex graphics. When first learning to use the program the menus are very helpful but after you have learned the commands the menus tend to get in your way. Muliple level menus can be confusing trying to remember what level the function you want is. The problem I run into is the Return Key and the Right Arrow Key are close and I get them confused. Doing regression problems with a lot of data can take a long time to complete. The program creates several series that are permutations of existing series. It uses the name of the source file, with a qualifier appended to the end, as the name of the new file. The regression qualifiers are .Fn for fitted series and .Rn for the residual series and "n" is a program generated number. For the function qualifier .Mn for moving average, .S for smoothed series, .T for the total series, .% for percent change, .-n & +n for lagging & leading series, and "n" being the number of periods. In conclusion, I have covered all the main points and listed the menu(s) and explanations of each item for a good understanding of the options of the program. The program costs $259 and is worth the price if this is the type of analysis and plotting you require.

```
        MAIN VISIPLOT/VISITREND MENU
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
  LOAD    ->PLOT   LOOK UP  CLEAR     <MORE>
  EDIT    ->TREND    SAVE   QUIT      DRIVE
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
LOAD      READS DIRECTORY, SELECTS SERIES,
LOOK UP   DISPLAYS SERIES INFO
CLEAR     SELECT SERIES TO CLEAR OR (NONE)
(MORE)    INIT, DELETE, SLOT #, -> MAIN
SAVE      SAVE SERIES TO DISK
DRIVE     SELECTS NUMBER
QUIT      RETURNS TO APPLESOFT PROMT
->TREND   GO TO VISITREND PROGRAM
EDIT      GOES TO EDIT MENU BELOW

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
  JUMP    INSERT   DELETE   SPECS     FORMAT
  PRINT   UNDO     EDIT     FILL      EXIT
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
JUMP      TO YEAR OR PERIOD IN SERIES
INSERT    NEW POINTS BETWEEN EXISTING PTS.
DELETE    EXISTING DATA POINTS
FORMAT    THE DATA TO BE DISPLAYED
PRINT     THE CONTENTS OF SERIES
UNDO      (ERASE) ALL CHANGES MADE
FILL      AREAS OF A SERIES (PREDEFINED)
EXIT      TO MAIN MENU
SPECS     CHANGE SPECS
EDIT      RETURN TO ENTRY LEVEL
->PLOT    GOES TO MENU BELOW

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
  LINE    BAR       AREA      PIE       HI-LO
  SCATTER NONE

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
SELECTING PLOT TYPE, THEN GIVES MENU BELOW
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
PLOT      SELECT   WINDOW   PRINT    PIXSAVE
OPTIONS   ->MAIN   OVERLAY  NEW
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
PLOT      PLOTS TO SCREEN
SELECT    SELECTS A SERIES TO PLOT
WINDOW    EXIT, HORIZ, VERT, SWITCH, NONE
PRINT     TO SLOT #
PIXSAVE   HI-RES PLOT TO DISK
OVERLAY   DRAWS NEW CHART ON TOP OF AN
          EXISTING CHART
NEW       CLEARS SCREEN, RESETS OPTIONS
->MAIN    RETURN TO MAIN MENU
OPTIONS   TAKES YOU TO THE NEXT MENU

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
TITLE     RANGE     FORMAT   GRID     UNLABEL
RESCALE   BACGR     COLOR

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
RANGE     CHANGE RANGE
FORMAT    SYMBOLS, LINES, OR BOTH
GRID      BOTH, HORIZ, VERT, NONE
UNLABEL   (ERASE) BOTH, HORIZ, VERT, NONE
RESCALE   X AXIS MIM, Y AXIS MIM, # DIV.
BACKGR OR COLOR ARE THE SAME AND TAKE YOU TO
MENU BELOW

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
DEFAULT  BLACK 1   GREEN     VIOLET    WHITE 1
BLACK 2  ORANGE    BLUE      WHITE 2

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
TITLE     TAKES YOU TO THE MENU BELOW
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
EXIT      TOP       BOTTOM 1 BOTTOM 2 BOTTOM 3
LEFT      LEGEND    MOVEABLE

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
->TREND   TAKES YOU TO MENU BELOW
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
EDIT      ANALYZE  ->MAIN   LOOKUP    FUNCTION
XFORM     CLEAR
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
->MAIN    TAKES YOU TO MAIN MENU
CLEAR     SELECTS SERIES, ALL, NONE
LOOKUP    DISPLAYS SERIES INFORMATION
EDIT      TAKES YOU TO THE EDIT MENU
XFORM     WRITE YOUR OWN FORMULAS
          MATH OPERATIONS +,-,/,*,^
          LOGICAL OPERATORS AND, OR, NOT
          COMPARATIVE -<,<=,=,>,>=
          FUNCTION SGN INT SQR LOG EXP RND
          ABS SIN COS TAN ATN
ANALYZE   TAKES YOU TO MENU BELOW

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
TABLE     STATS     REGRESS FORMAT    EXIT
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
TABLE     LISTS SERIES IN TABLE FORM
STATS     CALCULATES SERIES STATISTICS
          COUNT, MIN, MAX, MEAN, STD DEV,
          VAR, & CORELATION COEFFICIENTS
FORMAT    SPECIFY DATA DISPLAY
REGRESS   SELECT VARIABLES, & CONSTANTS
          GENERATES NEW SERIES: RESIDUAL
          AND FITTED AND DISPLAYS THE
          FOLLOWING STATS, T, R-BAR SQR,
          F, AND THE DURBIN-WATSON
FUNCTION  TAKES YOU TO THE MENU BELOW

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
MOVE AVG  SMOOTH   % CHANGE LAG       LEAD
TOTAL     EXIT
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
MOVE AVG  USES N+1 METHOD OF MOVING ADV
SMOOTH    EXPONENTIAL SMOOTHING SERIES
% CHANGE  CHANGE BETWEEN DAT N AND N+1
LAG       SHIFTS VALUES IN SOURCE SERIES
LEAD      SHIFTS VALUES IN SOURCE SERIES
TOTAL     CALCULATES RUNNING TOTAL IN SER.
EXIT      EXIT TO TREND MENU
```

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP NEWS

SIG INFORMATION CONTACT LIST:

Business———— Eric Stral 312-885-1941

Education————Helen Tufts 312-392-7735

Stock, Options, Commodities-----Harry Maram 312-764-1847, Bob Werner 312-433-0478

Pascal————Ken Nestle 312-620-7745

Modem————Terry Cronin 312-289-6392

### SIG COMING EVENTS

Education SIG- will hold their next meeting at Computerland of Arlington Heights, November 18. For more information, Call Helen Tufts 312-392-7735

Stock, Options, Commodities SIG will hold their next meeting Nov 19, 7:30 pm at MGCC building, 8944 N. Austin, Morton Grove. For more information call Bob Werner 312-433-0478.

Business SIG will hold their next meeting Nov 21. Mount Prospect Library 9:30 am.

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## VISICALC DISCUSSION GROUP

Anyone interested in participating in a VisiCalc discussion group? The purpose of the group would be to breakthrough some of the limitations and restrictions and to discover for ourselves the vast potential and to develop capabilities using the VisiCalc program.

I have no idea how this is going to happen. What I know is that opportunity exists to get solutions to a far greater variety of problems if people are willing to talk about the process of applying VisiCalc to specific applications.

Since the VisiCalc manual doesn't document many of the features, and who has the time to work out every detail on every function or read every article in the many computer magazines, the potential for inspiration in a group like this is tremendous.

So, what's next: willing people should contact me and start the process.

Harry Maram
7033 N. Kedzie 1616
Chicago, Illinois 60645
(312) 764-1847 (keep trying)

## EDITORIAL

We are very pleased to have Marlys Newcome contributing a review of periodical literature. She joins George Makas and Bill Pfutzenreuter as regular contributors to the Harvest. A small but dedicated group that are helping to make the Harvest one of the top Apple newsletters.

This month we have more than enough home grown articles to fill an issue. For the first time we are ahead of our printing deadlines. This is a tribute to you, the club members, who support and supply the articles that make the Harvest a success. Keep up the good work.

Once again one of our articles has been included in the Apple Orchard. Congratulations to Rob Stewart whose fine efforts as Sofware Evaluation Committee Chairman are also paying off in a little hard cash.

There are several articles elsewhere concerning the need for more personal club involvement on the part of more members. Hiring someone on a part time basis to handle much of the routine club business is now being considered. This will make some of the duties of the officers much less time consuming. If you are hesitant, because of the time commitments some of the positions involve, this might ease your concern.

Our rapid growth as a club has caused many problems. Some thoughts to ponder are:
1.Is the club too large to address the diverse nature of its membership.
2.Would the club be better run as an association with a paid business manager to run the day to day club activities.
3.Should the Harvest follow the lead of some of the national publications and accept paid advertising to help pay for the costs of paid staff, articles, an office, etc.
The above questions and all their ramifications should be carefully considered by all the members. If we are to continue as a viable entity we must have either more personal volunteers or we must be prepared to pay people to do the jobs we don't have the time for. Your thoughts and guidance are needed by the executive. What direction shall we take????????

## APPLE NEWS

Reliable sources indicate that new Apple happenings will be:
1. A 5 megabyte hard disk will be available for the Apple III scheduled for October. A similar hard disk is planned for the Apple II for the first quarter of 1982.

2. As a Christmas special, Apple will be offering a family computer which will include:
Apple II + 48k
Disk drive
Game paddles
RF modulator
Software-PFS, Typing Tutor, Invaders, Olympic Decathlon, Adventure, Training disk.

3. Software packages soon to be released by Apple - 7 for Apple II, 19 for Apple III

4. New facilities- Apple is now having a 75000 square foot distribution and service center constructed in Rolling Meadows.

Product: Magic Window
Created by Gary Shannon
Revised and Documented by Bill Depew

Distributor: ARTSCI INC.
10432 Burbank Blvd.
No. Hollywood, CA 91601
(213) 985-2922

Reviewed by: Marilyn and Joe Owen

DESCRIPTION

Magic Window is a menu driven word processor that simulates (sometimes too closely) a typewriter. The system consists of five subsystems which may be selected on the initial menu screen. The EDITOR is used to enter and modify your text. This is done in such a way as to make your screen look and behave like a typewriter. The cursor remains stationary in the middle of the screen and the text moves back and forth. If you like to read what you are composing as you enter (oops type) it you may wish to take a motion sickness pill prior to writing each letter. The top, bottom and edges of you paper are displayed for you on the screen. At the top of the screen Magic Window displays the line number, character number and page number of where the cursor is located.

The FORMAT SUBSYSTEM is used to describe the "page" on which you are "typing". You can set the width and length of your "paper" and if you want double spacing.

The FILER SUBSYSTEM saves and loads your text.

The PRINTER SUBSYSTEM (you got it) prints the text and the CONFIGURATION SUBSYSTEM allows you to describe you system and turn off the annoying click they use to simulate the sound of a typewrite.

Each of these subsystem has its own menu to select the action desired and to allow you to get from one subsystem to another.

REVIEW CRITERIA

The considerations which we used in evaluating this product were as follows:

1. Is the documentation clear and complete?
2. How easy is it to use?
3. Are ther any quirks, and if so what?
4. What features would make it even better?

In addition, we compared Magic Window against the two prior word processors we reviewed (EasyWriter and Apple Writer).

DOCUMENTATION

The documentation provided with this product was sufficient to allow us to use Magic Window with very little effort. The table of contents and the table of commands were invaluable in looking up all the control characters needed to insert and delete lines or characters and move the "paper" (not the cursor) around. Someday a committee should be formed to standardize the use of control characters. The clarity of the documentation may be one reason that many computer stores recomend Magic Window to their customers.

EASE OF USE

To move right or left on a line you use the right and left arrows. To move up you use CTRL-Q and to move down CTRL-Z. These required a few trips to the documentaion at first.

The documentation makes no mention of either the fact that, if you are on the top line of the first page and type CTRL-Q, you have created a new blank page 1 or how to get rid of this new page. The only way we found to get rid of it was to delete each line of the page.

The most difficult feature to get used to is the method used to insert text into the middle of a line. To do this you split the line, which causes the prtion following the point at which you split to form a separate second line. You then enter the text and "glue" the lines back together. This seems like carrying the analogy to a typewriter a little far. More on this under QUIRKS.

Upper case letters are entered by pressing ESC and the letter. Only one upper case letter is generated even if you hold ESC down while typing. To get an upper case shift lock you press ESC twice and to release it ESC once more.

QUIRKS

The one feature that drove us nuts (a nice weekend trip requiring less than a tank of gas) was the split and "glue". This feature forces you to not only reconnect the line you split, but also all remaining lines until the "glue" command does not move any thing up from the following line. You must first position the cursor to the end of the line (which means you can not see the start of the next line) and then press CTRL-G. The cursor is now at the start of the next line and must go to the end of this line to see if it is short enough to issue another "glue". Another little annoyance with "glue" is that if the short line ends at the end of a sentence and you "glue" it will not leave 2 blanks. You will have to go back and insert that second blank you learned about in TYPING I all by yourself.

The entire typewriter mode is a little odd. True it allows you to manually format you text and see the actual layout on the screen but only at the cost of an awkward insertion method and the inconvenience of always having part of you text off on the screen on the right and/or left. Then there is the motion sickness problem.

To search for a character string you first go to a menu screen to enter the string. Next you return to wherever you were. Next you position the cursor where you want the search to begin, if you are not already there. Now you can begin the search. We see no reason not to begin the search automatically at say the start of the document or where the cursor was. Why have to tell it the string and then tell it you really do want to search for it?

MISSING FEATURES

One feature that would be nice would be a simple insert that moves the text around for you. This is the way many word processors do it and it would save time. The fact that no type writer does this would not bother many people.

A global replace would be nice to have. You could use this to generate form letters to send to all those companies who got your name on a mailing list asking them to save our forests by deleting you from their files.

To do much complicated work the ability to set different left margins for different portions of the document would be an improvement. Magic Window make you space over for each line and if you are doing this and have to split and "glue" you have to reindent all the lines.

CONCLUSION

Magic Window is an easy to learn, though awkward to use for complicated work, word processor. Computer stores may recommend it because it is easy to get started on. If however, you do minutes for some organization, business letters, memos for work or any other word processing where you want to be flexible you may want to look at either of the prior word processors we reviewed. Either of these would be about as easy to learn and provide you with a more powerful tool.

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## ANOTHER NUMERIC KEYPAD FEATURE

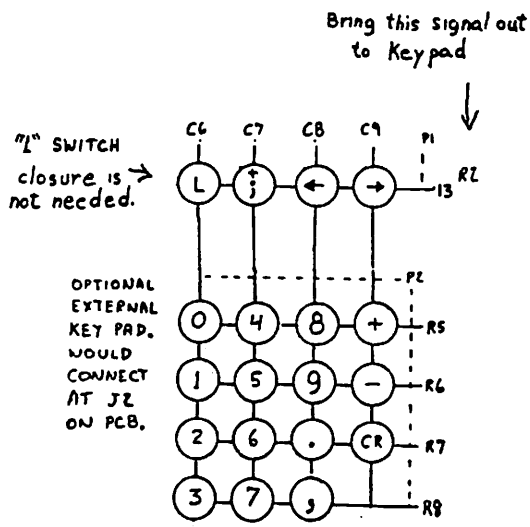
By Chuck Thomka
Reprinted from the South Bay Apples
Computer Club Newsletter, May-June 81.
Torrance, CA. 90510

Well, here it is another month and I've found another switch to add to my growing arsenal of formidable finger hooking, eye catching, and sometimes useful switches. Actually, though, this is something that you may have already seen on my External Keypad and I have made reference to it a number of times, but I never showed you how to make it work. What I'm talking about is the Left and Right Cursor Keys. If you are already familiar with my previous modifications and the associated schematic you may have noticed that the Left and Right Cursor Keys are not in the matrix of wires that are provided for the External Keypad. However, if you look at the schematic you may have noticed that half of the required wires (notably signals C8 and C9) are already used and sent out for the numeric keypad keys (4) (9) (.) (,) and (+) (-) (RETURN) then you're already half-way there to understand this latest modification.

Since only eight signals (R5 through R8, and C6 through C9) are used in the normal, but optional plug P2 you must find a way to bring out signal R2 to the keypad. For those of you who are connecting the external keypad wires at J2, you will find that pin 3 (that's the middle pin of the row of five pins) is not being used. This then makes a convenient point to connect signal R2. Once this is accomplished, the wires (or plug) that are/is connected at the P2 to be fed out to the keypad will then include signal R2. Now, in the same manner that you use to define which key of your external keypad will close which pair of wires, use the same method to wire up the Left arrow (signal C8 + R2) and Right arrow (signal C9 + R2). Even the more adventuresome among you might also connect the semicolon (;) key pair (signal C7 + R2).

I'm not going to expand on this matter right now because it would really require a drawing at this point. Also if you don't understand the preceeding instructions to hook up the various keys then maybe you shouldn't attempt the modification. As always you must understand that any modifications to the Apple may void your warranty.

Refer to entire schematic in the August issue of THE HARVEST.




Notice that holding "SHIFT", on your Normal Apple Keyboard, while pushing the ";" (semi-colon) key on this Numeric Keypad will enter a "+" (plus) -- since both semi-colon keys, of the Keypad and Keyboard, are wired in parallel.

## PERUSING THE PERIODICALS

by MARLYS NEWCOME

CREATIVE COMPUTING VOL 7 #10 OCT/81
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Author James C. Kingman
Title DESIGNING GOOD EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE
Page 72

Author Glenn Kleinman,et al.
Title EVALUATING EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE
Page 84

Author Larry Noonan
Title COMPUTER SIMULATIONS IN THE CLASSROOM
Page 132

Author Ronald Carlson
Title INEQUALITY TUTORIAL
Page 186
Subject This article shows how to use the APPLE II graphic capabilities to tutor a student in inequalities.

Author Chuck Carpenter
Title APPLE CART
Page 224
Subject A way to get the mini-assembler on an APPLE II plus

INTERFACE AGE VOL 6 #8, #9 AUG, SEPT/81
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Author Gene Cotton
Title ABOUT SORTS
Page 66,82
Subject A two part article comparing various sorting routines

INTERFACE AGE VOL 6 #10 OCT/81
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Author David D. Busch
Title BASIC FLAGS-AND HOW TO USE THEM
Page 84
Subject A technique of utilizing variables to control functions

This issue also has several articles on the educational use of micros.

SOFTSIDE VOL4 #12 SEPT/81
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Author Jon Voskuil
Title MIXED TEXT AND GRAPHICS IN HGR2
Page 60
Subject This program allows you to display four lines of text at the bottom of the screen while using HGR2.

Author Michael Prescott,Alan Zett
Title FLIP-IT
Page 21
Subject This is a computerized board game, in which you and the computer match wits trying to outflank and capture anothers pieces on an 8 x 8 board.

Author Eirher Bigham, Alan Zett
Title WORD CHALLENGE
Page 32
Subject A word guessing game for 2 players

Author Michael A. O'Keefe, Robert White
Title ORIENTEERING AT JACQUES COULEE
Page 66
Subject A computer simulation using map and compass to find your way.

COMPUTE! VOL3 #9 SEPT/81
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Author Michael E. Day
Title WHAT IS A MODEM, AND WHY DO I NEED ONE?
Page 20

MICRO THE 6502/6809 JOURNAL #40 SEPT/81
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Author Mark Bernstein
Title JUMPS AND THE 6502
Page 8
Subject Methods of jumping and branching for the assembly language programmer

This issue contains a 30 page APPLE bonus featuring graphics.

NIBBLE VOL2 #5
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Author Paul Raymer
Title MIRACLES
Page 51
Subject A game just for fun

This issue also contains several APPLE utility programs.

CALL-A.P.P.L.E. VOL4 #7
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Author Jeffrey K. Finn
Title WORD PROCESSOR EVALUATIONS
page 41

Author Ron DeGroat
Title PASCAL COMPUTER SIMULATIONS
Page 31
Subject Two simulations- earth orbits and ionic scattering are given

BYTE VOL6 #9 SEPT/81
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Author Gregg Williams
Title TREE SEARCHING, PART 1:BASIC TECHNIQUES
page 72
Subject A BASIC program allows your computer to solve a sliding-blocks puzzle.

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## NOVEMBER AGENDA

NOVEMBER 14, 1981
NOTE ! NOTE ! NOTE !
THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD ONE WEEK LATER THAN THE NORMAL MEETING DATE

10:00-10:30am Opening Remarks (Dave Alpert)
10:30-11:00am Machine Language Graphics (Paul Stadfeld)
11:00-11:15am Statement of the Month (G. Lyle)
11:15-11:30am Keyboard Enhancer (Logan Zintsmaster)
11:30-11:45am Break
11:45-12:30pm Games (K. Rose & Co.)
12:30-12:55pm Ask Mr. Apple (Mike Robins)
12:55-1:00pm Closing Remarks

NOTE ! NOTE ! NOTE !
NEW MEETING DATES FOR COMING MONTHS

DECEMBER MEETING- - - - -DEC 12
JANUARY MEETING- - - - - JAN 9

## THE CORRESPONDENT
from Southwestern Data Systems

A Text Editor Review
by
Alan Baldridge

The Poor Man's Magic Window ...
Let's look at an interesting little line-oriented text editor that goes for $44.95. Unlike most other text tools for the Apple, its cursor is fixed on one line, and the words scroll smoothly up or down under it. The promotional material says it scrolls from side-to-side, too, covering up to 80 columns on one line. But it doesn't scroll -- instead, it FLINGS the text from side to side. More about that in a minute.

Even on a raw 40-column Apple, The Correspondent lets you see your material exactly as it's formatted before you print it out. That, alone, makes it worth the price for some applications -- but the program includes a lot of other goodies, too. There's not enough room here to cover them all, so I'll just touch the highlights.

Operating details ...
This editor allows you to bounce back and fourth between two basic modes -- "scroll" and "edit". "Space-bar" gets you "edit" from "scroll"; "Ctrl-X" gets you "scroll" from "edit." You're first taken through a fast, nicely defaulted routine to set line-length, type of files you want to save (binary or text), and whether or not you want to clear space in the memory.

If you answer, "no" to that last question, The Correspondent drops you straight into your Apple's memory at 12640 ($3160), where you can use its jump, scroll and edit commands to do direct surgery. The screen's top line locks on, and can be set to display absolute address of the cursor.

If you answer,"yes," the screen clears with the top line displaying useful editing information: page and line # now at the cursor, current mode, and last command entered. The cursor comes up on the far-left margin at Vtab 12, directly below a dotted line indicating the line length, tab-set positions and center-of-page. If you chose more than a 40-character line, "Ctrl-P" toggles you back and forth between the left and right sides of the "page".

In the "scroll" mode The Correspondent puts a mind-boggling fourteen single-stroke and ten control-character commands at your fingertips. They let you call up such niceties as:

* Two "help" screens
* Jumps to start, end and line numbers
* Saving screens as "note" pages
* DOS command entries
* Scrolls up and down
* Sophisticated append and insert
* Freeze text at top of screen

... along with the usual block-move, search, delete, get, save and print functions. Touch the space bar, the "S" at the top of screen changes to an "E", and you're ready to start typing.

The "edit" mode gives you 17 control-character commands to set and clear tabs, imbed printer commands, center lines, move the cursor, etc. The program uses the "ESC" key once for caps, twice for shift-lock toggle. The disk includes an Exec-file to accomodate the Paymar chip, and the documentation includes a pitch for it (order by mail from SDS). All in all, everything is quite straightforward -- except as you enter text and the cursor reaches the center mark, it whips you over to the right-hand side of the page. Zap! You have been physically assaulted by a TV screen. I may someday get used to that, but I doubt it.

Additional features ...
The Correspondent includes a math function (albeit Rube Goldberg) along with programs to chain and print-out form letters, reclaim DOS space on data disks, transfer file types back and forth, build exec files, and some fascinating examples of how to use the main program as a free-form data base. Author Roger Wagner is bound and determined to see that we get our money's worth.
The Correspondent bears his unmistakable stamp. An ex-high-school science teacher, Roger Wagner seems as interested

in educating Apple-owners as he is in selling programs to them. His writing style bubbles along in a (paraphrased) manner of, "Hey! Look what I can do with scrolling! Isn't that neat? Here, let me show you how to put it in your own programs!"

Roger's enthusiasm almost lets me forgive the lack of organization in his rambling,

non-indexed, 48-page manual (of which 13 are addenda, supplemental notes and copy-protection philosophy). The information is there, but you've got to wade through a lot of verbiage to find it.

The disk is copy-protected, but contains its own back-up routine. As Roger says, "You are limited to a total of three back-ups. (Considering that a diskette should last 1-2 years, this gives a total of 4-8 years of total service!)" Certainly, his policy is eminently fair, if somewhat naive given the bit-copy programs now on the market. That's the good news.

Disadvantages and gripes ...
The bad news is that the program runs only under 3.2 DOS. Since Muffin won't produce a runnable copy, those of us with 3.3 are stuck with that blasted Basics disk for another 8 years, if we continue to use The Correspondent.

And unfortunately, the program has one flaw that makes it impossible for me, at least, to use it as a serious text editor. IT IS SLOW! If you're a good touch-typist (50 w/p/m or better), it will drive you right up the wall by dropping characters at unexpected places. But most of us don't require souped-up typewriters, and my other criticisms are just nit-picks. There's a lot of meat here for the money.

If I'm going to invest my time to master a new bunch of commands, the idea of being able to use them in a whole series of day-to-day programs makes lots of sense. I will return my review copy with all three backups pristine, and the next time I have 45 bucks burning a hole in my pocket, go buy The Correspondent. Let's see, I can make it into an Agenda File and a Forms Layout Utility and a Telephone List and a Reminder File and a Personalized-Letter Printer and a Library Index and an Expense Record and a ...

# NOVEMBER

| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 Election Day | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Veterans Day<br>Remembrance Day<br>Canada | 12 | 13 | 14 NIAUG<br>GENERAL MEETING |
| 15 | 16 DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IN HARVEST | 17 OFFICERS MEETING | 18 EDUCATION SIG | 19 STOCK, OPTIONS, COMMODITIES, SIG | 20 | 21 BUSINESS SIG |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 Thanksgiving Day | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | FQ 5 | FM 11 | LQ 18 | NM 26 |

## Program Contest

We are pleased to announce a repeat of the very successful program contest of last year. Prizes will be awarded to those entries that are deemed the best by the contest judging committee.

Entries will be accepted thru the January 1982 meeting. Prizes will be awarded at the Valentines Day Massacre Party tentatively scheduled for February 14.

There will be numerous categories including ones for novices and advanced programmers. Basic, Pascal, CPM, etc will be separated into different categories. The committee will make the division based on availability of prizes. There will also be one Grand Prize of $100 and one First Prize of $50 donated by the club. Other prizes awarded will come from dealers and vendors donations. All reasonable entries will receive a free copy of the winning programs.

Submission should be on a disk and include a description of the program and any instructions, if necessary. Judging will be influenced by the inability to operate a program if instructions are not included. Programs that do not need instructions will not be degraded if they prove not to need such. Disks submitted must have the authors name printed on the media itself (also in the HELLO program, if possible).

A letter releasing rights of reproduction to the NIAUG and verifying that the work submitted is original and was written by the person submitting it must accompany the disk.

Larry Erdman and I have volunteered to form a committee. We need your help. Volunteers please call me at home before 10pm.

Dave Alpert

## >— PFUTZ PRINTS —<

618 N. Prospect Manor
Mt. Prospect,IL 60056
(312) 259-3649

Do you have any APPLE questions? Has your bit bucket turned into a byte bucket? Are you anxious for more clich´es? Then, break down and ask a question or two.

Dear Pfutz,

I have a program that just needs to be BLOAD´ed. After the BLOAD it automatically starts itself. I though that BRUN only did this. What gives?

Signed, A. Mazing

Dear A. Mazing,

This is, of course, a clever trick that makes use of Apples' character output routine. Apple´s output character routine uses an indirect jump address at location $36 & $37. After the BLOAD, starting at or before location $36, Apple will ouput a new prompt character. To do this, it will jump to the address specified from location $36 (low byte) & $37 (hi byte). But the BLOAD changed the output address to the start of the program. So, the program automatically starts (then resets $36 & $37 to normal). This also means some wasted space, since programs normally start at $800 (about $7CA bytes or 7 to 8 disk sectors). But in the protection racket, the wasted space is necessary.

Pfutz

Dear Prints,

My disk drive has sometimes been acting flaky. When I SAVE a program to disk then try to LOAD it later that same day, I would get that dreaded "DISK I/O ERROR". Then the next day, I would try to LOAD my program and it worked! What is the matter with my drive?

Signed, Hue Midity

Dear Hue Midity,

These disk drives need to operate in a cool, and relatively dry enviroment. Although I could not find any temperature or humidity specifications, these limits do exist. So a normal hot and humid Chicago day can make your drive give either a temporary or a permanent "I/O ERROR". You were lucky, your problem was just temporary. Treat your diskettes AND disk drive with tender loving care.

Prints

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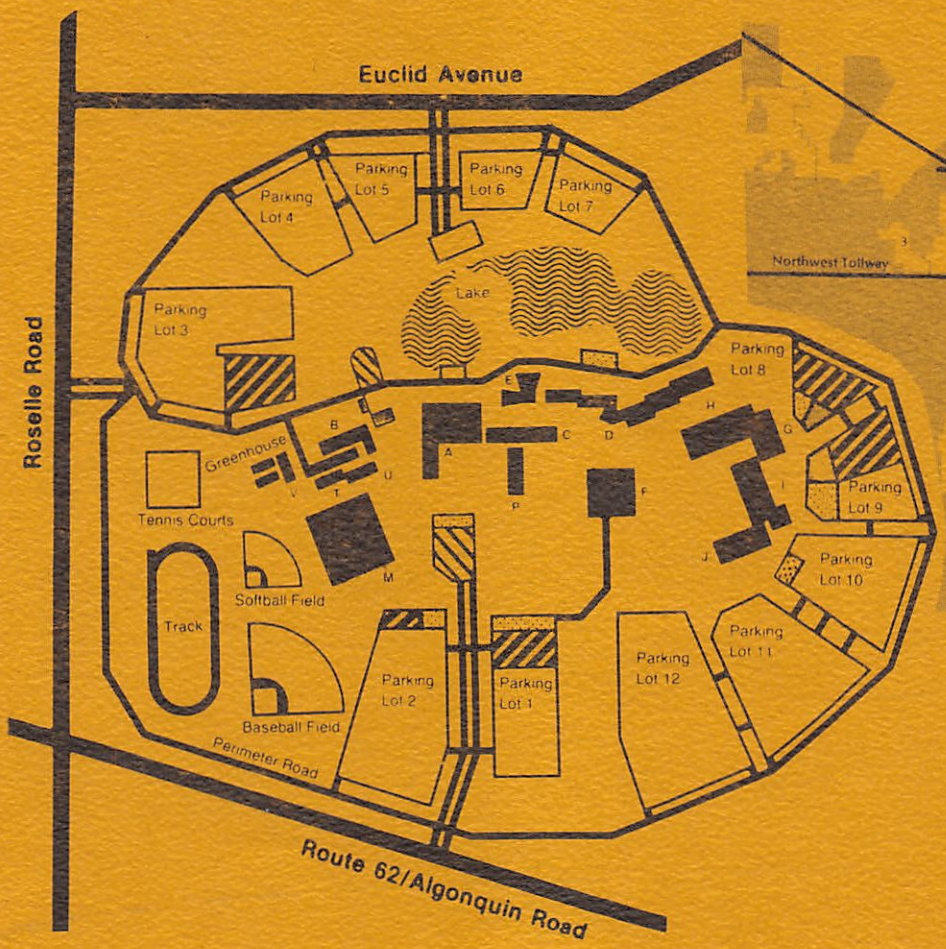



## MEETINGS

Meetings are regularly held on the the first Saturday of each month unless otherwise noted in room E106 Harper College, Palatine, Il starting at 10:00am.